

# School Committee Meeting Book

February 24, 2016 7:00 pm

Town Hall Selectmen's Meeting Room





#### AGENDA February 24, 2016 6:30pm Town Hall—Selectmen's Meeting Room

<u>Items</u> <u>Suggester</u>		time allotments
I.	Public Participation	6:30 - 6:40
II.	Chairperson's Report & Members' Reports	
III.	Superintendent's Report	
IV.	Time Scheduled Appointments A. SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report	6:40-6:55
V.	Curriculum	
VI.	Policy	
VII.	Finance and Operations A. FY17 Curriculum-Technology Budget: Report B. Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Recommendation: Public Hearing C. Fee Adjustment Recommendation: Discussion D. Rate Change for Long Term Substitute Teachers: Vote	6:55 – 7:25 7:25 – 7:55 7:55 – 8:15 8:15– 8:30
VIII.	Old Business	
IX.	New Business	
X.	Approval of Minutes	8:30 – 8:35
XI.	Executive Session  A. Negotiations: Shrewsbury Education Association, Unit A; pot collective bargaining negotiations with cafeteria workers asso paraprofessionals association; potential discussion of compen administrator contract negotiations and/or contract negotiation personnel	ciation and/or sation guidelines for
XII.	Adjournment	8:55

Next regular meeting: March 9, 2016





MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

#### ITEM NO: I. Public Participation

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear thoughts and ideas from the public regarding the operations and the programs of the school system?

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Copies of the policy and procedure for Public Participation are available to the public at each School Committee meeting.

#### ITEM NO: II. Chairperson's Report/Members' Reports

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from Mr. John Samia, Chairperson of the School Committee and other members of the School Committee who may wish to comment on school affairs?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

This agenda item provides an opportunity for the Chairperson and members of the Shrewsbury School Committee to comment on school affairs that are of interest to the community.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. John Samia, Chairperson

Ms. Sandra Fryc, Vice Chairperson

Ms. Erin Canzano, Secretary

Dr. B. Dale Magee, Committee Member

Mr. Jon Wensky, Committee Member

#### ITEM NO: III. Superintendent's Report

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear a report from Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

This agenda item allows the Superintendent of the Shrewsbury Public Schools to comment informally on the programs and activities of the school system.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

#### ACTION RECOMMENDED FOR ITEMS I, II, & III:

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.





ITEM NO: IV. Time Scheduled Appointments MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

A. SHS Student Advisory Committee: Report

Will the School Committee hear a report from the Shrewsbury High School Student Advisory Committee?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- 1. Under the Massachusetts Education Reform Act, school districts are required to have a Student Advisory Committee (SAC), consisting of five high school students who are elected by the student body. The SAC is required to meet with the School Committee during the year to review various issues of concern to the student body. Mr. Andrew Smith, SHS social sciences teacher, serves as the faculty advisor to the SAC. This is the third presentation for the 2015-2016 school year.
- 2. The agenda for the SAC report is attached.
- 3. Mr. Wensky is the School Committee liaison to the SAC.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee accept the report and take such action as it deems in the best interest of the school system.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources Mr. Andrew Smith, Faculty Advisor to the Student Advisory Committee Mr. Todd Bazydlo, Principal, Shrewsbury High School Lindsay Mahowald, Class of 2016 (Chairperson) Hari Kumar, Class of 2016 Vikram Pathalam, Class of 2017 Benjamin George, Class of 2018 Maya McCollum, Class of 2018

# Student Advisory Committee Agenda for the School Committee Meeting on February 24, 2016

#### I. Town Meeting

On December 8<sup>th</sup>, SHS had an early release day. The day was split into four segments for the students including a new version of the traditional Town Meeting. This provided students with an opportunity to raise questions and address concerns at SHS.

- a. Overall structure and success of the day
- b. Questions from the Town Meeting

#### II. Midterms and Course Selection

In late January, students at SHS completed midterm exams. Currently, students are starting the course selection process for the 2016-17 school year. Discussions on the budget and potential changes in class size have also occurred.

- a. Midterms
- b. Course selection
- c. Budget and class sizes

#### III. Events at SHS

As we move into the second semester there are a number of exciting events going on at the high school. Students have taken on many opportunities to stay involved at SHS and in the community.

- a. Speech and Debate
- b. Athletics
- c. SHS "Super Tuesday"
- d. Magic Show
- e. Kids' Night Out

Thank you for your continuous support of the SAC.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Mahowald Chairperson

Hari Kumar, Vikram Pathalam, Maya McCollum, Benjamin George SAC Members





ITEM NO: V. Curriculum

MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

STAFF & STUDENTS AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:





ITEM NO: VI. Policy	MEETING DATE:	2/24/16
SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:		
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:		
ACTION RECOMMENDED:		
STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:		





ITEM NO: VII. Finance & Operations MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

A. Fiscal Year 2017 Curriculum-Technology Budget: Report

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear the report on the Fiscal Year 2017 Curriculum-Technology Budget?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- 1. Ms. Banios, Mr. L'Heureux and Ms. Powers have prepared details of how the relationship of the curriculum & technology programs has become interconnected due to instructional resources becoming increasingly digitized.
- 2. The enclosed report provides details regarding digital instructional tools, various budget related costs for each program, and recommendations regarding the 1:1 technology program.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee hear the report and take whatever steps it deems necessary in the interests of the Shrewsbury Public Schools.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION

Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

Mr. Brian L'Heureux, Director of Information Technology

Ms. Shawna Powers, Director of Instructional Technology

# SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY FY17 BUDGET DETAILS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Prepared by: Mary Beth Banios, Brian L'Heureux, and Shawna Powers

February 16, 2016



# OVERVIEW: THE SYNERGY BETWEEN CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY BUDGETS

As instructional resources are increasingly digitized, the curriculum and technology budgets are becoming interconnected and interdependent of one another. While this report separates out curriculum/instruction and technology expenditures, the two departments now work in tandem with one another to deliver a high quality instructional experience to Shrewsbury's students.

#### DIGITAL INSTRUCTIONAL TOOLS

Please find below links to a number of digital instructional tools that redefine learning experiences for Shrewsbury students. These tools only become viable in 1:1 learning environments and provide opportunities for personalized learning, assessment, and feedback that would not available in more traditional classrooms.

#### **ALEKS**

Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces is a Web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system. ALEKS uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know in a course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics she is most ready to learn. As a student works through a course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained. ALEKS courses are very complete in their topic coverage and ALEKS avoids multiple-choice questions. A student who shows a high level of mastery of an ALEKS course will be successful in the actual course she is taking. ALEKS also provides the advantages of one-on-one instruction, 24/7, from virtually any Web-based computer for a fraction of the cost of a human tutor.

(Source aleks.com)

https://www.aleks.com/video/k12\_tour

#### **Listen Current**

Listen Current brings authentic voices and compelling non-fiction stories to the classroom. This resource curates the best of public radio to keep teaching connected to the real world and build student listening skills at the same

time. It also includes interactive transcripts of interviews and stories, supports for English Language Learners, and the ability to customize and differentiate assignments.

https://listencurrent.com/how\_it\_works

#### **LightSail**

Progress monitoring is embedded into daily practice in a natural way. Students answer multiple-choice, written-response, and Cloze assessments throughout each text. As student ability grows, LightSail tracks achievement and updates the selections in each reader's library – that way, students are always reading just right texts. LightSail's educators have also built several key motivators into the app! Students can track their progress against individual reading goals, check their Lexile scores and the number of texts they've completed and show off their achievement badges – all via their personal data dashboard. Readers can also chat with peers and teachers during the reading experience using LightSail's in-app social network.

Source: lightsailed.com

https://www.graphite.org/app/lightsail

# SHS STUDENT INNOVATION TEAM: VALUE ADDED TO CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Shrewsbury High School Student Innovation Team (SIT) has successfully completed its first semester as a student-run help desk. SIT is a semester-long course that students in grades 9-12 can choose to take as an elective. Along with serving as the first line of tech support for both students and staff members, this team also enhances teaching and learning across the school.

#### Services Provided to Support Student Learning

- Offers tech support (during school day and before/after school) This document contains a student-generated analysis of the types of issues resolved by SIT: <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/</a>
   1TMb3y2K4eUXRFObpkdkV5x7EyF2w3EGKoGcH33dbHaA/edit#gid=0
- Supports technology integration projects for courses
- Creates digital citizenship videos used to teach the entire student body about the care and protection of their iPads and how to interact positively in the digital world <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/">https://drive.google.com/file/d/</a>
   OB7 XPZNdacQGaEN1MzkyQnhRaVU/view?usp=sharing
- Provides a model for project based learning through the team's Independent Learning Endeavors (ILEs)

#### Services Provided to SHS Staff

- Offers tech support (during school day and before/after school)
- Develops of technology training resources in collaboration with Ms. Gauthier, for example this AirServer presentation for all SHS:

 $\frac{\text{https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1-x6crBsiBe0K17cDRTWHZgQRWRF-YUSZD0qCq9C9yJs/edit\#slide=id.p}{}$ 

 Supported school counseling department in the creation of a video that will be used to introduce incoming freshmen to SHS

# CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY BUDGET DETAILS

#### **Curriculum and Instruction Budget**

Account	FY2016 Budget	FY2017 Proposed Budget	Difference
Mentoring Stipends	\$28,000	\$28,000	\$0
Curriculum Development	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
Professional Development Contractual Services	\$80,500	\$80,500	\$0
Texts/Instructional Equipment	\$254,288	\$218,288	(\$36,000)
Educational Supplies	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
Travel Professional Development	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0
Dues and Membership	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
Conference Professional Development	\$23,000	\$23,000	\$0
TOTAL	\$444,288	\$408,288	(\$36,000)

#### **Notes on FY17 Curriculum and Instruction Budget**

FY17 Cost
\$28,000
\$50,000
\$80,500
\$218,288
\$23,000

#### Instructional Technology (IT) Budget\*

Account	FY2016 Budget	FY2017 Proposed Budget	Difference
PD: Dues & Memberships	\$1,530	\$450	(\$1,080)
PD: Conferences	\$0	\$350	\$350
Inst. Tech: Supplies	\$17,122	\$19,000	\$1,878
Inst. Tech: Networking	\$110,515	\$145,050	\$34,535
Inst. Tech: Hardware	\$428,230	\$678,000	\$249,770
Inst. Tech: Software	\$76,750	\$86,000	\$9,250
Networking Infrastructure	\$49,512	\$7,000	(\$42,512)
Data Processing	\$95,533	\$111,550	\$16,017
AV Supplies	\$4,590	\$7,069	\$2,479
AV Equipment	\$7,650	\$7,650	\$0
Repair and Maintenance: Equip	\$41,300	\$61,520	\$20,220
TOTAL	\$832,732	\$1,124,339	\$290,907

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that this budget detail does not include salaries and wages or line items for Media Services, both of which are included the ITAMS total on page 30 of the budget book.

#### **Notes on FY17 IT Budget**

The major drivers of increases in the IT budget are listed below. A number of smaller increases in maintenance and software costs are also included in the budget request.

Item	FY17 Cost
Inst. Tech: Hardware	
Additional 1:1 iPads beyond lease equity rollover 458 iPads for Grade 9, a projection of this expense was documented it the 12/17/14 School Committee report that outlined the finances of moving to a district supported 1:1 program.	\$217,092
iPad cases for Grade 5 This is a new expense for FY17, as the cases for the initial SHS deployment and this year's Grade 5 were purchased in FY15. A projection of this expense was documented it the 12/17/14 School Committee report that outlined the finances of moving to a district supported 1:1 program.	\$14,460
iPad cases for Grade 9 This is a new expense for FY17, as the cases for the initial SHS deployment and this year's Grade 9 were purchased in FY15. A projection of this expense was documented in the 12/17/14 School Committee report that outlined the finances of moving to a district supported 1:1 program.	\$50,367
Inst. Tech: Networking	
Wi-Fi access point maintenance The initial purchase of wireless access points (including those installed as part of the Sherwood building project) included three years of maintenance, and are coming due for renewal.	\$15,338
Networked storage maintenance The initial purchase of our main networked storage array as part of the Sherwood building project included three years of maintenance and has come due for renewal	\$16,403

# RECOMMENDATION FOR REALLOCATION OF CLASS OF 2016 IPADS

For the 2015-2016 school year, in keeping with past practice in our 1:1 program, new iPads were acquired for all grade 5 students. In addition, to launch the 1:1 program at the High School, iPads were acquired (via a lease with a purchase option) for all High School students. This presents us with a rather unique opportunity to reallocate the iPads that were used for one school year by the Class of 2016.

Our recommendation is to reallocate the 400 iPads currently assigned to the Class of 2016 as follows:

- Provide an additional 132 iPads to Grade 4 to complete the outfitting of all grade 4 classrooms with an iPad cart with one iPad for every two students
- Begin replacing aging iPads elsewhere in the District, including elementary, special education, and staffassigned iPads

This reallocation will allow us to maintain our planned four-year cycle for student 1:1 iPads and avoid \$175,096 in costs for replacing aging iPads across the District and expanding the grade 4 1:2 program.

#### iPad Lifespan - 2 Critical Issues

At the inception of Shrewsbury's 1:1 Digital Conversion in 2012, the planned lifecycle of student 1:1 iPads was four years. At the time there was some uncertainty as to the true lifespan of the devices, and the District was aggressive in committing to a four-year replacement cycle, while other districts were committing to three-year replacement cycles. The District's experience is proving that four years is a workable lifecycle. However, extending the lifecycle beyond four years carries risks based on two main factors: hardware durability and software support.

#### Hardware Durability

The 2015-2016 school year is the fourth year of use for the current eighth grade 1:1 iPads. This school year has seen an increase in the number of device malfunctions, likely due to the heavy use and handling conditions that the devices experience. From August 2015 through January 2016, increasing numbers of the Grade 8 iPads have experienced some sort of malfunction not directly attributable to being dropped or hit. For example, this school year, only 10 Grade 7 iPads have failed, while 34 Grade 8 iPads have failed. As the iPads fail, loaners need to be made available to students and there is both a staff and hardware cost to this process. In addition, there is an educational impact to students when their iPads are out of service. Malfunctions have included button malfunctions, screen malfunctions, and general failures. As the devices become older, the repair costs in some cases are approaching and will likely soon exceed the value of the devices themselves.

#### Software Support

Software support is a significant factor in the lifecycle of iPads. Once an iPad is dropped from the list of devices that are supported by the latest operating system release, their usefulness in a 1:1 environment diminishes greatly due to inability to access app updates and support becomes much more complex. Additionally, older operating systems are generally dropped from support in standardized tests (for example, only operating systems released within the past two years are currently supported by PARCC). Because Apple does not publish support timelines for iPad models, we look to past practice to estimate future support. Based on this, it is risky to plan on iPad models being supported for more than four years. Attempting to increase the 1:1 replacement cycle beyond four years runs the risk of devices in use by the 1:1 program no longer having the ability to run the latest software (including standardized testing software), with little advance notice and limited ability to react within a budget cycle.

#### Grade 4 1:2 iPad Program

In the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years, using Colonial Fund donations, the District began piloting the use of iPad carts in Grade 4 with a ratio of one iPad per two students. We recommend that this implementation be expanded such that all Grade 4 classrooms will have a cart with one iPad for every two students in the class.

The reason for our recommendation is that the grade 4 1:2 pilot has been very successful. The pilot teachers report that the iPads have had a positive impact on teaching and learning in their classrooms. Here are some of their comments about their experience:

- Engagement and motivation is very high. Collaboration skills have definitely increased. I like the opportunity to create video tutorials on math skills or writing response skills and have them watch it to help support their learning. Nearpod has been really great for that! They especially love the opportunity to have online discussion in their guided reading groups on Schoology. Students are seeing an authentic purpose for the work, since so much of it is shared with other classrooms and parents.
- Students are more excited to learn and create new products to show their learning.
- The students are more engaged and willing to share their thinking throughout all areas of the curriculum.
- Students are comfortable working with iPads and they are excited and engaged in their learning. I am able to differentiate assignments, and find that all my students, including my struggling learners, are more motivated and eager to demonstrate their knowledge using the iPads. Students who were reluctant readers and writers regularly ask to use the iPad for reading and for sharing their stories.
- Students are learning to use a new form of technology, expanding on what they already know, and teaching each other. Students are learning through various modes- listening to books, watching videos, writing posts, and so forth. Students are using various apps to present information in new ways.

Reallocating Class of 2016 iPads toward this purpose would avoid \$62,568 in costs for iPad purchases.

The cost of the apps used in this expansion are included in the curriculum budget.

#### In-District Non-1:1 iPad Replacement

The District now has an inventory of 46 non-1:1 first-generation iPads that can no longer run the latest software. In addition, there are 92 non-1:1 iPads that will be six years old by the spring of 2017, and 503 non-1:1 iPads that will be five years old by the spring of 2017. Our recommendation is to start a five-year replacement cycle for non-1:1 iPads. We believe that the five-year cycle, rather than a four-year cycle, is workable for non-1:1 iPads due to two main factors:

iPads that are not in use in the 1:1 program are handled more gently on a day-to-day basis than those that are used daily in the 1:1 program.

If the iPads that are not in use in the 1:1 program were to become obsolete due to the rescission of support for the latest operating system, the impact would be slightly more manageable for a year in non-1:1 uses.

Over the past few fiscal years, the budget has been focused on launching the 1:1 program in Grades 5-12, and fewer resources have been focused on replacing aging iPads elsewhere in the District. Starting a five-year replacement cycle for the non-1:1 iPads in use in the District would cost \$112,527 per year. While this initial expenditure would not ensure that all iPads are replaced after five years, it would balance the distribution of iPad models to be on track to accomplish this in the future. Reallocating 268 iPads from the Class of 2016 will allow the District to begin this cycle at no cost beyond that of the existing lease.





ITEM NO: VII. Finance & Operations MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

B. Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Recommendation: Public Hearing

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee hear feedback from the public regarding the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Per state law, the School Committee must hold at least one public hearing on the proposed School Department budget. At this hearing, the public is encouraged to provide feedback regarding the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget that was proposed at the School Committee's meeting of January 20, 2016.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee hear feedback from the public regarding the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources

Mr. Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations





ITEM NO: VII. Finance & Operations MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

C. Fee Adjustment Recommendation: Discussion

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee discuss the proposed fee adjustments?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- 1. Per the Committees request of a review of all fee-based programs as part of the FY17 budget process, Mr. Collins has prepared information for discussion.
- 2. Details regarding current busing fees, preschool tuition, and kindergarten tuition along with comparison cost from other school districts is enclosed.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee discuss the proposed fee adjustments.

MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations



# Shrewsbury Public Schools Patrick C. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

February 17, 2016

To: School Committee

Subj: FEE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Background**

We know that a significant gap of over \$3.3M exists between our initial FY17 budget proposal and the Town Manager's initial budget plan. While we hope that more revenue becomes available, we expect that a series of expense reductions and School Department fee revenue increases will be required to close the gap.

The enclosed recommendation to increase busing, kindergarten, and preschool tuition fees is consistent with the committee's guidance to review all fee-based programs as part of the FY17 budget process. It is important to note that this is a very difficult recommendation to make because, as educators, we would much prefer that fees were not required to access these services.

This recommendation is being made tonight so the committee has some time to understand and discuss it before a vote is conducted at a March school committee meeting. It is imperative to be on this timeline so as to inform parents as they make enrollment decisions for their children and we re-open bus registrations in April for the 2016-2017 school year.

#### **Bus Fee**

The current bus fee rate of \$250 has been in place since the 2010-2011 school year. It was \$210 per rider in preceding years. It is recommended that the fee increase to \$275 for the 2016-2017 school year and that the family cap of \$500 be eliminated. Attached is a revenue budget for FY17 using the recommended fee increase, factoring some ridership attrition and also absorption of the online payment processing fee. The projected increase in revenue using these assumptions is \$85,000 which would be used to reduce our current FY17 operating budget for transportation.

Implementing the online payment system will be beneficial from a variety of perspectives. First, it will provide convenience to parents and hopefully incentivize them to pay before the deadline thereby eliminating the late fee. Further, it will reduce clerical overtime costs associated with manual processing of over 2,200 check payments. Finally, it will have a net benefit of improved productivity in the Business Office by reducing the workload associated with the manual check processing task.

The average cost to transport a student is \$679 so the \$275 fee represents about 40% of the average cost. Listed below are the 2015-2016 bus fees from some other school districts.

Ashland	\$280
Grafton	\$200
Hopkinton	\$155
Lexington	\$300
Littleton	\$225
Natick	\$150
Newton	\$310
Shrewsbury	\$250

#### **Kindergarten Tuition**

As of the 2015-2016 school year, over 91% of Massachusetts kindergarten students attend a full-day program. The *enclosed documents* from Strategies for Children provide statewide information on attendance and tuition. This data was collected by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education [DESE] and it reports that 262 districts offered universal, free full-day kindergarten. Another 84 cities/towns offered full-day kindergarten on a tuition basis at an average cost of \$3,296 per year. Only 5 communities did not offer any full-day kindergarten programs. The obvious barriers to offering full-day kindergarten are adequate space and financial resources and these are the reasons it is not universally offered in Shrewsbury.

For the current school year [2015-2016], we have displayed below current tuition rates for some nearby communities and included two private providers as well.

Community/School	Annual Tuition
Ashland	\$4,000
Acton	\$4,500
Boylston	\$3,200
Shrewsbury	\$3,700
Southboro	\$3,250
Wachusett	\$3,250
Westboro	\$3,400
Lilliput- Shrewsbury	\$9,729
Montessori-Shrewsbury	\$12,150
St. Mary's	\$5,950-\$6,350

It is recommended that the rate increase to \$4,000 for the 2016-2017 school year, an increase \$300 [8%] per year. The additional revenue will be used to fill the gap in funding due to the expected loss of \$62,000 currently received from the state full-day kindergarten grant and to also fund increased costs for salaries, wages, and health insurance for employees working in the program.

#### **Preschool Tuition**

The district is mandated to provide a Preschool Program because of our population of special needs students who become eligible for educational services at age three. The program must include typically developing peers and so we are able to allow those students into the program and charge them tuition. The tuition rates have not been increased since the 2012-2013 school year.

Attached is some comparative tuition information from area communities. Due to rising costs over the past several years for salaries/wages, health insurance, and supply costs, it is recommended that rates increase by 8% for the 2016-2017 school year. Listed in the chart below are the current rates for FY16 and proposed new rates for FY17. New next year would be a full-day program for four full and one half day which is in high demand from parent inquiries.

	FY16	Proposed FY17	Annual
Session	Annual Tuition	Annual Tuition	Difference [+8%]
2 Half Days	\$1,897	\$2,049	\$152
3 Half Days	\$2,466	\$2,663	\$197
4 Half Days	\$2,972	\$3,210	\$238
5 Half Days	\$3,637	\$3,928	\$291
4.5 Full Days	NA	\$6,610	NA

The four and half day program does not require any additional space nor add any new staff. It does fill a community need for preschool services on a full-day schedule and is attractive in households with working parents

/Volumes/Staff/District/Central/Shared/JSawyer-KCantin/School Committee/2015-16 SC Meeting Docs/12. February 24, 2016/PCCmemofees&tuition.doc

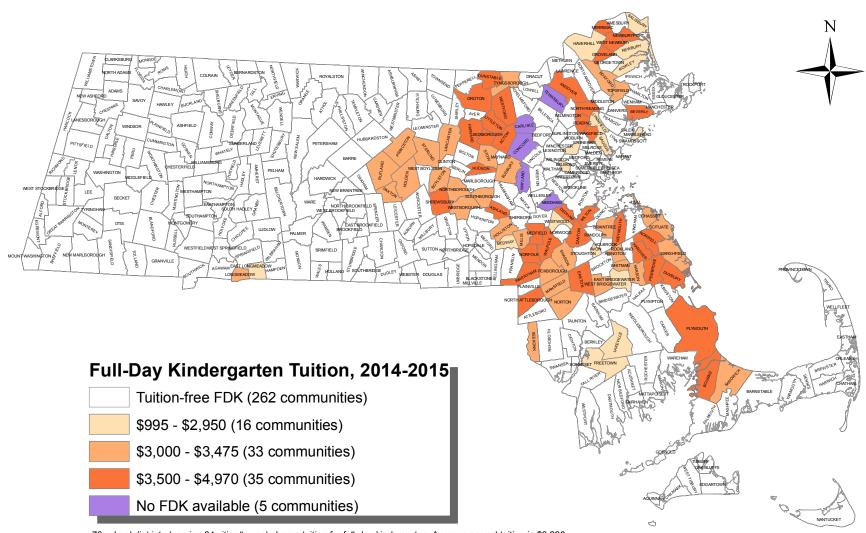
# SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FY17 BUS FEE RECOMMENDATION: FISCAL RECAP

Recommended	
Total Revenue for 2015-2016 School Year	\$ 635,977
Eliminate Family Cap- Add'l Estimated Revenue	\$ 21,000 Assumes 75% of current 112 "Family Cap" riders will purchase
Estimated FY17 Revenue	\$ 656,977
Less Late Fees Collected	\$ (16,250)
"Pure" Bus Fee Revenue	\$ 640,727
Increase fee from \$250 to \$275 [10% increase]	\$ 690,704 Assumes 98% persistence
Less online payment processing fee	\$ (20,721) Assumes district absorbs the fee and 100% pay online
Net Revenue	\$ 669,983
Current FY17 Budgeted Revenue	\$ 585,000
Net New Revenue	\$ 84,983 This amount helps close the FY17 budget gap

Alternate-Keep Family Cap	
Total Revenue for 2015-2016 School Year	\$ 635,977
Less Late Fees Collected	\$ (16,250)
	\$ 619,727
"Pure" Bus Fee Revenue	\$ 619,727
Increase fee from \$250 to \$275 [10% increase]	\$ 668,066 Assumes 98% persistence
Less online payment processing fee	\$ (20,042) Assumes district absorbs the fee and 100% pay online
Net Revenue	\$ 648,024
Current FY17 Budgeted Revenue	\$ 585,000
Net New Revenue	\$ <b>63,024</b> This amount helps close the FY17 budget gap



# Tuition Rates for Full-Day Kindergarten by City/Town, 2014-2015 School Year



70 school districts (serving 84 cities/towns) charge tuition for full-day kindergarten. Average annual tuition is \$3,296. Statewide, 91.7% of public school kindergarten students are enrolled in full-day kindergarten.

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

phone: 617.330.7380

fax: 617.330.7381





### Tuition Rates for Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) in Massachusetts

Full-day kindergarten in 2014-2015 school year		
Number of districts offering kindergarten* At least one FDK classroom Half-day kindergarten only *Includes charter schools	313 308 5	
FDK districts offering: District-wide FDK (District-wide free FDK) Partial FDK, not district-wide	243 (234) 65	
Districts charging tuition for FDK Average tuition: \$3,296	72	
Grant-funded districts that charge tuition Average tuition: \$3,166 Tuition range: \$1,800–\$4,000 (cap)	29	
Non-grant districts that charge tuition Average tuition: \$3,383 Tuition range: \$995–\$4,970 (no cap)	43	

District	Tuition Rate 2014-2015	Quality Full-day Kindergarten Grantee
Abington	\$3,050	No
Acton	\$4,000	No
Andover	\$4,650	No
Ashland	\$3,900	Yes
Avon	\$2,500	Yes
Belmont	\$2,900	Yes
Beverly	\$4,000	Yes
Bourne	\$3,600	No
Boxborough	\$4,000	No
Boxford	\$3,000	No
Boylston	\$3,200	Yes
Braintree	\$3,000	No
Canton	\$3,500	Yes
Cohasset	\$3,000	Yes
Dedham	\$3,500	No
Duxbury	\$3,875	Yes
East Bridgewater	\$2,520	No
East Longmeadow	\$2,650	Yes
Easton	\$3,500	No
Foxborough	\$3,000	Yes
Freetown-Lakeville	\$1,460	No
Groton-Dunstable	\$4,970	No
Hanover	\$3,750	No
Harvard	\$3,750	Yes
Haverhill	\$2,000	Yes
Holliston	\$3,475	No
Hudson	\$3,600	Yes

District	Tuition Rate 2014-2015	Quality Full-day Kindergarten Grantee
Hull	\$3,000	Yes
Littleton	\$4,057	No
Longmeadow	\$3,000	No
Lynnfield	\$2,600	No
Mansfield	\$3,100	Yes
Marblehead	\$2,600	Yes
Marshfield	\$3,000	No
Medfield	\$3,500	No
Medway	\$2,500	No
Millis	\$3,150	Yes
Milton	\$3,700	Yes
Nashoba RSD	\$3,100	Yes
Newburyport	\$3,500	Yes
Norfolk	\$3,600	Yes
North Attleborough	\$4,000	No
North Reading	\$4,250	No
Northborough	\$3,250	Yes
Norton	\$3,000	Yes
Norwell	\$4,000	No
Pembroke	\$3,500	Yes
Pentucket	\$3,800	No
Plymouth	\$4,000	No
Reading	\$4,200	No
Sandwich	\$3,000	No
Saugus	\$2,700	No
Scituate	\$3,000	Yes
Seekonk	\$3,300	No
Sharon	\$3,285	No
Shrewsbury	\$3,700	Yes
Southborough	\$3,000	Yes
Sudbury	\$3,250	No
Topsfield	\$3,000	No
Triton RSD	\$2,950	Yes
Tyngsborough	\$3,400	No
Wachusett	\$3,250	No
Wakefield	\$4,000	No
Walpole	\$3,800	No
West Bridgewater	\$3,000	No
Westborough	\$3,400	No
Westford	\$3,500	No
Westwood	\$1,800	Yes
Weymouth	\$3,500	No
Whitman-Hanson	\$3,200	No
Winchester	\$995	No
Wrentham	\$3,500	No

Source: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. (March, 2015).

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For more information, contact Titus DosRemedios, director of research and policy, 617-330-7387 or tdosremedios@earlyeducationforall.org

#### PRESCHOOL TUITION RATE COMPARISON

DISTRICT	Median House Hold Income*	Fiscal Year Rates	TUITION 2 half- day/wk (2.5/hr)	TUITION 3 half- day/wk (2.5/hr)	TUITION 4 half- day/wk (2.5/hr)	TUITION 5 half- day/wk (2.5/hr)	TUITION 4 full- day/wk (6/hr)	TUITION 4 full-day/wk (6/hr) & 1 half-day/wk (2.5/hr)
Framingham	\$68,881	17	\$1,740		\$3,070		\$6,390	\$7,440
Marlboro	\$71,424	17			\$2,300		\$3,400	
Millbury	\$71,676	16	\$1,150		\$2,100	\$2,600		\$6,500
Hudson	\$74,082	16	\$1,255	\$1,730	\$2,305			
Grafton	\$81,250	16			\$2,500			
Lancaster - Nashoba Reg.	\$81,833	16	\$1,450	\$2,170	\$2,780			\$6,680
Berlin - Tahanto Reg.	\$88,681	16	\$1,600	\$2,260				
Sterling - Wachusett Reg.	\$90,455	16	\$1,035	\$1,545	\$2,190	\$2,580		
Rutland - Wachusett Reg.	\$91,033	16	\$1,035	\$1,545	\$2,190	\$2,580		
Chelmsford	\$93,643			\$1,950		\$2,950		
Millis	\$96,773	16			\$2,150	\$2,350		
Shrewsbury	\$97,365	16	\$1,897	\$2,466	\$2,972	\$3,637		
Holden - Wachusett Reg.	\$97,972	16	\$1,035	\$1,545	\$2,190	\$2,580		
Natick	\$98,902	16		\$3,000	\$3,700			\$6,800
Paxton - Wachusett Reg.	\$99,376	16	\$1,035	\$1,545	\$2,190	\$2,580		
Westboro	\$100,522	16	\$1,750	\$2,625	\$3,500	\$4,375		\$7,875 (5.5 hr/day)
Franklin	\$101,980	16	\$1,480	\$2,050		\$3,530		\$5,700 (4 hr/day)
Boylston - Tahanto Reg.	\$102,422	16	\$1,600	\$2,260				
Ashland	\$102,721	16	\$2,140	\$2,860		\$4,180		\$10,250
Northboro - Northboro- Southboro School District	\$107,111	16	\$1,550	\$2,600	\$3,300	\$3,600		
Princeton - Wachusett Reg.	\$114,688	16	\$1,035	\$1,545	\$2,190	\$2,580		
Stow - Nashoba Reg.	\$131,500	16	\$1,450	\$2,170	\$2,780			\$6,680
Bolton - Nashoba Reg.	\$144,461	16	\$1,450	\$2,170	\$2,780			\$6,680
Southboro - Northboro- Southboro School District	\$149,375	16	\$1,550	\$2,600	\$3,300	\$3,600		

<sup>\*</sup> Median household income is sourced from the Census Bureau's *American Community Survey*.





ITEM NO: VII. Finance & Operations MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

D. Rate Change for Long Term Substitute Teachers: Vote

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee vote to recommend the proposed rate change for Long Term Substitute Teachers?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

- 1. Long-term substitute teachers are paid on a fixed per diem rate calculated off of their Bachelor's Step 1 or Master's Step 1 scale.
- 2. Ms. Malone is recommending that the committee vote to allow the administration to negotiate rates on an individual basis, based on market demand.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee vote to recommend the proposed rate change for Long Term Substitute Teachers.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources



# Shrewsbury Public Schools

Barbara A. Malone Director of Human Resources

To: Shrewsbury School Committee

Re: Rates for Long Term Substitute Teachers

Date: February 24, 2016

In Shrewsbury Public Schools we have two ways of staffing for teachers who are absent from school: day-to-day substitute teachers, who typically work from a half day up to ten days in the same or different assignments, and long-term substitute teachers, who typically work eleven or more days in the same assignment. Long-term substitute teachers are typically covering for maternity leaves or serious illnesses.

Day-to-day substitute teachers make \$75 per day and it has been the practice of the Shrewsbury School Committee that long-term substitute teachers are paid at a per diem rate calculated off of either the Bachelor's Step 1 or Master's Step 1 scale. Currently those per diem rates are \$243.83 and \$270.41.

I am proposing that rather than paying a fixed rate for long-term substitute teachers that the school committee votes to allow the administration to negotiate long-term substitute teacher daily rates of pay on an individual basis, based on market conditions, but not lower than the \$75 per day.

Potential savings could be around \$2,000 per typical six-week leave (where we have many more applicants than roles available), with the very rare instance where a rate might be set slightly higher than the B1 or M1 rate (where we may only have 1-2 qualified applicants for the role available).

Thank you for your consideration.

<u>Recommended motion</u>: I move that the school committee votes to allow the administration to negotiate long-term substitute teacher daily rates of pay on an individual basis, based on market conditions, but not lower than the \$75 per day.





ITEM NO: VIII. Old Business	MEETING DATE:	2/24/16
SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:		
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:		
ACTION RECOMMENDED:		
MEMBERS/STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:		





ITEM NO: IX. New Business	
SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:	
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:	
ACTION RECOMMENDED:	
STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:	





MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

ITEM NO: X. Approval of Minutes

SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee approve the minutes of the School Committee meeting on January 20, 2016?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

1. The minutes will be provided under separate cover.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee approve the amended minutes of the School Committee meeting on January 20, 2016.

STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Mr. John Samia, Chairperson Ms. Erin Canzano, Secretary

#### SHREWSBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 100 MAPLE AVENUE SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

#### MINUTES OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016

Mr. John Samia, Chairperson; Ms. Sandy Fryc, Vice Chairperson; Ms. Erin Canzano, Secretary; Dr. B. Dale Magee, and Mr. Jon Wensky; Dr. Joseph Sawyer, Superintendent of the Shrewsbury Public Schools; Ms. Mary Beth Banios, Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Barbara Malone, Director of Human Resources; Mr. Patrick Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations

The meeting was convened at 7:00 pm by Mr. Samia.

#### I. Public Participation

None

#### II. Chairperson's Report and Members' Reports

Dr. Magee and Ms. Canzano announced that they would be running for re-election to the School Committee.

Mr. Wensky mentioned that he had the opportunity to join the Paton fourth grade students on their field study to the Tsongas Industrial History Center. He enjoyed the students' enthusiasm and explained that they learned about immigration and the industrial revolution. He also said they held a reenactment of a Town Meeting from 1831 where each student had a speaking role.

#### III. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Sawyer discussed the communication that he sent to the community about the appropriate protocol that would occur if the district received a threat like the ones that had been in the news recently, many of which were non-specific, pre-recorded threats. He explained that the district is working very closely with the police and fire departments to determine what steps to take. He thanked Mr. Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations, Mr. Steve Rocco, Safety, Security and Transportation Coordinator, and the police and fire chiefs for their efforts.

Next he announced that he recorded a segment of the Superintendent's Update with Kate Lewis and Elin Dolen, both teachers from Oak Middle School, who shared a presentation they had created for a recent conference regarding the work that is being done by Oak educators to help students use technology to promote creativity in their approach to learning.

Dr. Sawyer also shared some student successes including students taking the Mathematical Modeling course who participated in an international competition on Mathematical Modeling and earned meritorious ratings. The also shared that the High School Quiz team qualified for the final 16 on WGBH's High School Quiz Show. Next, he offered congratulations to a member of the quiz team, Gokul Ajith, who received a perfect score on the ACT college entrance exam, and to a recent graduate, Celine Chandra, Class of 2015, who received the highest possible score on her Advanced Placement art drawing portfolio. She was one of only 16 students in the world to do so.

He then congratulated two SHS alumni, undergraduates at UMASS Amherst, Kacey Smart and Dylan Briggs, who were part of a research team that created a design that has a provisional patent for a device that creates 3D models of animals in the wild.

Finally, he thanked all the community members who made a donation to the Colonial Fund and especially Shrewsbury Federal Credit Union who donated \$5,000 and matched another \$5,000. He explained that the total \$24,599 more than doubled last year's amount.

#### IV. Time Scheduled Appointments

#### A. Calendar Committee: Report

Dr. Sawyer introduced the members of the committee, many of whom were present at the meeting. Two of the members, Ms. Lisa Robinson, Director of Preschool Programs and Mr. Mike Albertson, parent, presented information and survey results from the School Calendar and Start Time Committee. This committee was established to advise administration and the School Committee on any potential for changes to the school year calendar and the scheduled start time of schools. Ms. Robinson explained that the Committee was charged with considering alternatives for the most effective calendar to meet the education needs of students, professional development of educators, and the needs and preferences of families and staff. They noted important factors for establishing this study included state laws, contracts between SPS and the Shrewsbury Education Association, weather, and whether to add religious holidays back in to the calendar.

Highlights of the report included research of nearby districts for comparison and results of a survey the committee developed to get feedback from parents, staff, and students. Based on the responses, the committee provided recommendations on the following topics: start of the school year, religious holidays, vacation days surrounding holidays, school vacations, parent teacher conferences early release days and professional development. They shared that the Calendar Committee recommended that the district continue its current approach to the calendar, and they advised that the district focus on enhancing communication with families and staff regarding policies for when students miss school for religious obligations.

The Committee inquired as to what questions received the most comments and if there was anything the Committee should monitor. They thanked Ms. Robinson, Mr. Albertson and all other members for the very comprehensive report.

#### B. Calendar for 2016-2017 School Year Recommendation

Dr. Sawyer provided a review of the draft calendar explaining the reasoning for the various dates chosen to observe holidays, and for including professional development and early release days. He noted that the draft was developed with the Calendar Committee's recommendations in mind. He stated that the draft calendar along with the presentation and report from the Calendar and Start Time Committee would be posted on the website for public feedback before the vote at the next meeting.

#### V. Curriculum

#### A. SHS Program of Studies: Recommended Changes

Mr. Todd Bazydlo, Principal, Ms. Maureen Monopoli, Assistant Principal and Ms. Liza Trombley, Director of English at Shrewsbury High School, presented their recommended changes to the 2016-2017

Program of Studies that the Committee would be asked to approve at their next meeting on February 3. After a brief review of the course selection process, efficiencies and building occupational concerns, the administration provided highlights of their recommendations. These included additional courses in social studies, mathematics, and performing arts and minor language changes to courses in English, visual arts, health, physical education, consumer science, engineering, and science.

Committee members asked clarifying questions about the addition of the Advanced Math II course and preparation for college level classes at Quinsigamond Community College, as well as the proposed changes to the English curriculum for the senior year.

Dr. Sawyer stated that the report, presentation and complete Program of Studies would be posted on the website for review prior to the vote.

#### VI. Policy

None

#### VII. Finance and Operations

#### A. Fiscal Year 2017 Budget: Superintendent's Recommendation

Dr. Sawyer, Superintendent and Mr. Patrick Collins, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations presented the fiscal year 2017 budget recommendation which included the following topics: Mission, core values, strategic priorities, sustaining all classroom and co-curricular programs, meeting demands of mandated services, level services budget recap, financial and enrollment summaries, indicators of value, and next steps.

Dr. Sawyer indicated that a total of \$2,310,008 is estimated to sustain personnel, \$1,500,771 is recommended to sustain operations, and \$180,000 for additional staffing for mandated services, equaling a total of \$3,990,779 which is a 6.83% increase. Including these suggested increases, the total budget recommendation is \$62,446,298. Dr. Sawyer explained that the two-year annual average increase (2.20% for FY16, which was much lower than usual, and 6.83% for FY17) is equal to 4.51%, a number that is inline with previous budget recommendations.

Next, Mr. Collins provided a 10-year overview of the operating budget history in dollars and percent increases. He illustrated that the average annual percent increase over the past ten years was 4.57%. He also included projections for enrollment figures; special education tuition, which is showing an increase of \$934,881; vocational tuition, which has gone down slightly; and transportation, which is showing a slight increase of \$49,805. He then supplied a summary on special revenue funds, Chapter 70 state aid and Circuit Breaker reimbursement funding. He wrapped up his presentation with comparisons to other like districts and Assabet Collaborative districts. He also provided statistics on per pupil spending and various state aid figures.

In summary, Dr. Sawyer emphasized the School Committee's budget priorities, which are to sustain the current level of personnel and programming, meet mandates in cost-effective ways and advance School Committee strategic priorities. He also reviewed a timeline of next steps.

Committee members shared concern that the cost estimates for a level service budget are substantial. They commented that given the 15-year budget history and the reality of continually rising education costs, the proposed budget is very reasonable. They also noted while Shrewsbury is not unique in its inability to raise revenue that equals expenses, it is however unique that there is a tremendous amount of

assets in the schools and in the community and the district continues to use innovative approaches to work with what we have to remain a district that does more with less. They acknowledged that there is a considerable amount of work to be done given the constraints of mandates, levy limits, and lack of state aid but will continue to watch as the situation unfolds.

The Committee thanked Dr. Sawyer and Mr. Collins for their hard work and comprehensive report.

#### VIII. Old Business

None

#### IX. New Business

None

#### X. Approval of Minutes: Vote

On a motion by Mr. Wensky, seconded by Dr. Magee, the School Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the School Committee meetings on December 2 and December 16, 2015.

#### XI. Executive Session

Mr. Samia requested a motion to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with the Shrewsbury Education Association, Unit A, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and for the purpose of discussing a student residency issue. On a motion by Dr. Magee, seconded by Mr. Wensky, on a roll call vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Mr. Wensky, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes; Mr. Samia, yes; the School Committee voted to adjourn to executive session at 9:13PM.

#### **XII. Information Enclosures**

None

#### XIII. Adjournment

On a motion by Dr. Magee, seconded by Ms. Fryc, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 PM. On a roll call vote: Dr. Magee, yes; Ms. Canzano, yes; Ms. Fryc, yes; Mr. Samia, yes.

Respectfully submitted Kimberlee Cantin, Clerk

#### Documents referenced:

- 1. Calendar Committee Report and Slide Presentation
- 2. Draft Calendar for 2016-2017 School Year
- 3. SHS Program of Studies Recommended Changes Memo, Program and Slide Presentation
- 4. Fiscal Year 2017 Superintendent's Budget Recommendation and Slide Presentation





ITEM NO: XI. Executive Session MEETING DATE: 2/24/16

#### SPECIFIC STATEMENT OR QUESTION:

Will the School Committee enter into executive session executive session for the purpose of a) discussing negotiations with the Shrewsbury Education Association, Unit A, where deliberation in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body, and/or b) for the purpose of reviewing and/or releasing executive session minutes from a prior meeting?

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Executive session is warranted for these purposes.

#### **ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

That the School Committee enter into executive session.

#### STAFF AVAILABLE FOR PRESENTATION:

Ms. Barbara A. Malone, Director of Human Resources Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer, Superintendent of Schools

ITEM NO: XII. Adjournment